

CONTROL NO. 5455  
ATTACHMENT NO. 1  
28 June 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Secretariat, Economic Intelligence Committee

FROM : Chairman, EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture

SUBJECT : EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture Annual Report  
for FY 1968.

A. Activities of the Subcommittee During Fiscal Year 1968

1. Review of the Intelligence Product in the Subcommittee's  
Field of Competence

None

2. Research and Collection Deficiencies

The Subcommittee has not prepared any collection deficiency statements during FY 68.

3. Review of Substantive Papers

None

4. Review of Proposals for External Research

There was no formal Subcommittee review of an agency proposal for external research. However, the Chairman of the EIC received a request from General Yarborough, Acting Chief of Intelligence, Department of the Army, that the EIC consider preparing a coordinated study on the rice economy of South Vietnam. Extensive discussions were held with various offices of the Department of Agriculture and the Agency for International Development, who maintain the major research resources on this problem both in Washington and in the field in South Vietnam, and who therefore would have carried the burden of analysis for the study. These discussions indicated that the EIC membership would have little to offer to a study of rice production and distribution in South Vietnam which had not already been accomplished or was then in the research planning stage, in either the Department of Agriculture or the Agency for International Development, and hence the study was not undertaken by the EIC.

5. Maintenance of Agreed Basic Statistics

There have been informal discussions among some Subcommittee members on current agricultural production statistics of Communist countries. In most cases there has been substantial agreement.

6. Projects Undertaken at the Request of the EIC or Proposed to the EIC

None

7. Intelligence Research Techniques

There was no discussion of research techniques by the Subcommittee during FY 68.

8. Special Coordination Functions of the Subcommittee

No special coordination functions were undertaken by the Subcommittee in FY 68.


9. Evaluation of the Role of the Subcommittee

Despite the infrequency of formal activity, the Subcommittee is in a unique position to influence research in the food and agricultural problems in critical areas of the world. The problems arising from the population explosion, food problems in Communist countries, and problems with less developed countries present the Subcommittee with continuing challenges. It is imperative that members of the intelligence community and other interested government agencies cooperate closely to ascertain potential problem areas of the world.

B. Future Program of the Subcommittee

The Subcommittee should continue to identify gaps in research and collection, approve external research projects, serve as a coordinating body for all agencies and departments having responsibilities in food and agriculture, and serve as a clearing house for information and data on western countries which could be useful in appraising developments in Communist countries. The Subcommittee should be alert and discuss or bring to the attention of non-Subcommittee agencies with substantive responsibilities significant developments and activities in the field of food and agriculture throughout the world.

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Chairman  
EIC Subcommittee on Agriculture